

Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor this morning to talk about a piece of legislation that is going to be before us this week, and we are bringing it forward through the Congressional Review Act.

In our office, we have had so many people ask: What is a Congressional Review Act, and how is it that you can recall these rules?

This allows Congress to exercise their authority over the agencies and the administration and the executive branch interaction where they make rules. Many times they do these rules, as this previous administration did, at the last minute, as they are heading out the door, trying to put their thumb and their imprint on actions and prohibit Congress or prohibit the States from taking an action.

So as we meet in this Chamber this week, we are going to take up H.J. Res. 43. H.J. Res. 43 is a resolution which will disapprove of one of these last-minute rule changes that President Obama made as he was exiting his office. This one deals with title X funds and the grant allocations that come through title X funds.

Now, title X funds were put in place to serve women and their healthcare needs, underserved women in underserved areas, and to make certain that there were provisions so that they could access women's health and have access to preventive screenings, to annual immunizations, those checkups that they need to have each year. Many times these funds have been used by individuals who will say: We do women's health and we also do abortion services.

Now, what the rule would have done was to block the States and to take away their ability to go in and ask: Who is going to have access to these funds, and are we going to disallow them to go to entities that provide abortion services?

So H.J. Res. 43 repeals the previous administration's rule and it restores and gives back to the States the flexibility that they want and desire to have to distribute these title X grants under the parameters for which this program was designed.

States should be able to offer family planning funds to providers that offer a full and complete range of healthcare services for women, but do not participate in elective abortions.

Title X funds, outside of the Affordable Care Act, were intended to help keep patients healthy and to help them on the road to a better quality of life and better health outcomes, not to take away life.

H.J. Res. 43 also redirects title X grant funds to other clinics comprised of local health departments, hospitals, and federally qualified health centers that seek to protect life and offer healthcare services to women.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to support H.J. Res. 43, which repeals the

previous administrative efforts which undermine State laws and restores to the States the title X grant program for its original purpose.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 30 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

We give You thanks, O God, for giving us another day.

As You make available to Your people the grace and knowledge to meet the needs of the day, we pray that Your spirit will be upon the Members of this people's House, giving them the richness of Your wisdom.

May the power of Your truth and our faith in Your providence give them all the confidence they must have to do the work required for service to our Nation.

May all that is done this day be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Illinois (Ms. KELLY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. KELLY of Illinois led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

RECOGNIZING AMERICAN HEART MONTH

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House

for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, as our Nation celebrates American Heart Month, I want to highlight the groups and individuals working to ensure that south Florida is filled with healthy hearts.

Organizations like the Ft. Lauderdale-Miami chapter of the American Heart Association work tirelessly every day to raise awareness and support patients, as well as caregivers. The members will be hosting the Miami Heart and Stroke Ball to help fund lifesaving research and prevention programs in our community.

I would also like to recognize the medical researchers, the doctors, and the nurses at the Miami Cardiac and Vascular Institute and so many other medical centers that are working to pioneer innovative treatments that save lives in south Florida every day.

This American Heart Month, let us unite as a community to promote exercise, healthy eating habits, and frequent checkups to ensure that south Florida is heart-healthy throughout the entire year.

WHERE IS THE HEARING

(Ms. KELLY of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, in the wake of troubling events in the Trump White House, I have one simple question: Where is the hearing?

In less than a month, we have watched the credibility and security of our democracy endangered by a descent into scandal, distrust, and an authoritative environment. What are we going to do about it?

I serve as the top Democrat on the Oversight and Government Reform Committee's IT subcommittee, yet I have heard nothing about a hearing to investigate Russia's cyber attacks on our elections. Where is the hearing?

Officials are hawking the First Daughter's private clothing line from the White House. Where is the hearing?

I sit on the Foreign Affairs Committee, and we have not had a discussion on Russia's potential blackmailing of our President or former NSA Director Flynn. Where is the hearing?

The President's tweets show an utter lack of respect for our free press and independent judicial system, hallmarks of our democracy. Where are the hearings?

Russia, election hacking, unconstitutional Muslim bans, gag orders on public servants, unfinished and unfilled ethics paperwork, politically motivated witch hunts against scientists and reporters, blackmail from a foreign government, and the list goes on and on. All of these deserve answers so, once again, I ask, where is the hearing?

The people of Illinois and the American people deserve to know. They deserve a hearing.